

Warner River Local Advisory Committee

5 East Main St., PO Box 265, Warner, NH 03278

warnerriverlac@gmail.com

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Pillsbury Free Library (Lower Level)

18 E. Main St., Warner, NH 03278

Appointed WRLAC Representatives present in **bold** (term ends):

Bruce Edwards, Bradford (10-8-2021)

Scott MacLean, Bradford (10-8-2021)

Carol Meise, Bradford (10-8-2021)

Susan Roman, Webster (10-12-20~~21~~¹⁹)

Ken Milender, Warner (11-26-2021)

Laura Russell, Warner (11-26-2021)

Christopher Spannweitz, Warner (11-26-2021)

Doug Giles, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

Linden Rayton, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

J. Michael Norris, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

David White, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

Robert Wright, Sutton (05-22-2021)

Andy Jeffrey, Sutton (07-2021)

Peter Savickas, Sutton (08-19-2021)

Invited Guests: Bonnie Christie (Hopkinton), Dan Moran (new Webster rep., pending)

Introductions: Welcome to new WRLAC members – Peter Savickas of Sutton and Dan Moran of Webster (appointment pending)

A quorum was present.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

New and Continuing Business

1. **Meeting minutes** – June 2019 and July 2019 minutes were approved.
2. **WRLAC Representatives confirmation letters** – Current WRLAC representatives should have received letters from the state indicating the revised approval process. No action from representatives is necessary.
3. **Bonnie Christie (Hopkinton, Contoocook/North Branch LAC)**
 - a. Bonnie invited the WRLAC to participate in hosting a two-part series, based in Hopkinton, that will focus on river topics (natural history, human history, planning initiatives, and issues of concern); partnering with the Contoocook/North Branch LAC, 5-Rivers Land Trust, Hopkinton/Warner ConComms).
 - b. See attached proposed flyer.
 - c. The first night, possibly in February, 2020, would be a panel followed by Q&A. Members of the Hopkinton and Warner historical societies and conservation commissions would present. The topics would be the natural and cultural history of the Contoocook and Warner Rivers.
 - d. The second evening, possibly in March, 2020 could also be a panel/Q&A and would be led by representatives of DES and the two LACs. The topics would cover questions such

as “What is a protected river?”, “What is a corridor management plan?”, “What tools are available for providing the most effective stewardship of the river?”

- e. Discussion
 - i. Carol mentioned that the Bradford Historical Society would probably be interested since the Warner River originates in that town.
 - ii. Susan suggested including some kind of topic that would increase residents’ awareness of the importance of the river in our lives and in our communities; also, information about culverts would be good to include.
 - iii. Linden offered to be the point person for the WRLAC.
 - f. Vote: The committee voted unanimously to actively co-sponsor the program.
4. **Quorum** – Discussion to lower the threshold for a quorum
- a. The business of the Committee will be more efficient with a lower quorum.
 - b. Bob motioned the following: “A quorum shall consist of a majority of official representatives.”
 - c. The Committee voted unanimously to make the change to the bylaws. (attached)
5. **Warner River Corridor Management Plan Survey.** Full Committee has taken the survey. Discussion on CNHRPC responses to our July questions.
- a. Discussion about statistical validity: While it would be great to have enough responses for a truly scientific result of the survey, Joanne Cassulo’s experience (and the experiences of others who have been involved in gathering public input from their towns) has been that there are usually too few responses to provide a scientific result. However, the answers will provide guidance and information that the Committee will be able to use in developing the Corridor Plan. “We have to go with the data we have,” as one member said.
 - b. Joanne was able to provide answers to all the Committee’s questions via email.
 - i. Contacts – The survey can be posted on town websites. Joanne will provide postcards that can be displayed at libraries, town halls, and other strategic locations. The postcards will have the link to the survey with a brief explanation of what the survey is for.
 - ii. The WRLAC does not need to vote to approve the survey, but a formal vote will be requested.
 - iii. Surveys are usually open for about 2 or 3 months.
 - iv. The survey will ask for the survey-taker’s zip code.
 - v. Question A7 was deleted due to its lack of clarity.
 - vi. The Committee suggested that Sections A (questions for general public) & B (for landowners along the river) be combined. The thinking for Section B is that residents who live on tributaries or along wetlands, etc., are also stakeholders in the River’s health, and thus also the Corridor Plan. In addition, it was not clear who was meant by “property owners.” Are we surveying riparian owners only, or non-riparian owners within the Corridor?
 - c. Timing of the launch of the survey
 - i. It would be great to have the survey ready for people to take at the Warner Fall Foliage Festival. We could have a few iPads available so people can take it on the spot. (Joanne HIGHLY recommends that we get people to take the survey electronically because it is very time-consuming to collate data from hard copy surveys).

- ii. Materials needed for a booth: postcards, paper survey, pencils, iPads, Nomination materials for review during the survey. Chair will request paper copies of the Nomination maps for public viewing at the booth.
 - iii. Ideally, the survey would be launched on the websites of the five towns in time for WFFF Weekend, too.
- 6. Permit Applications. No new applications this month.
- 7. FEMA Flood Mapping. Committee to review letter (already sent due to deadlines).
 - a. Tabled
- 8. Website. Chair to request a volunteer to spearhead options for establishing a WRLAC website, resurrecting the Warner River Nomination page, hosts, costs, etc.
 - a. Tabled

Old business (leftovers from previous agendas)

- 1. Representatives introductions/interrogations (continued).

Long-Term Monitoring (all quiet, for now . . .)

FEMA Risk MAP Contoocook Basin
 WVWD's Wastewater Infiltration System
 WRLAC Review Guidelines (Sue/Ken)

Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail
 Route 127 (Davisville) Bridge.
 Hopkinton Complaint #2019-00437

Next Meeting: Weds., 25 September 2019

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.